

# INTEGRATED SECURITY GATEWAY APPARATUS

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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### Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to a networking system for wide-area networking. In particular, the invention relates to a networking system with an integrated security gateway apparatus interposed between an internal network and an external network, for integrating virtual private networking, firewall and intrusion detection functions.

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### Description of the Related Art

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Businesses today are faced with supporting a broader variety of communications among a wider range of corporate branches even as they seek to reduce the cost of their communications infrastructure. Employees are looking to access the resources of their corporate intra-nets as they take to the road or telecommute. And also, business partners are joining together in extra-nets to share business information. In this environment, private computer networks come in all forms and are put to many purposes.

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Fig. 1 shows an example of a conventional private computer network using dedicated leased lines or packet-